KING'S

HARVEST of Great Food Savings!

A WINNING COMBINATION... KING'S AND JON McCLURE ARE Helping You "Make Ends Meet!"

"Makins Ends Meet" RECIPE OF THE WEEK: CHEDDAR & BLUE CHEESE FONDUE

Produce

Meat

Grocery

Frozen & Dairy

Bakery

Delicatessen

HOME BAKED SPECIALS FROM Pillsbury

PILLSBURY FLOUR 5 LB. BAG 99¢

CAKE MIXES 18½ OZ. BOX 69¢

KRAFT MAYONNAISE QUART JAR $1.19

TOKAY GRAPES POUND 69¢

FRYING CHICKEN PIECE 55¢

ROUND STEAK BEEF $1.99 LB.

SLICED BACON 12 OZ. PKG. 89¢

ORANGE JUICE 12 OZ. CAN 89¢

CABBAGE 2 LBS. For 29¢

BARTLETT PEARS 39¢ LB.

YELLOW BANANAS 3 LBS. $1.00

SWEET POTATOES 3 LBS. For $1.00

ALL PURPOSE ONIONS 3 LB. BAG 99¢

HONEY DEW MELONS JUMBO SIZE $1.39 EACH

PRICES GOOD SEPTEMBER 10 TO 16, 1981

TIDE DETERGENT 49 OZ. SIZE $1.79

SPAGHETTI & MEATBALLS 2 15½ OZ. CANS $1.39

TEXIZE WOOD PLUS 32 OZ. $1.29

TEXIZE PINE POWER 32 OZ. $1.69

LOG CABIN SYRUP 24 OZ. WT. $1.49

INSTANT POTATOES 9 OZ. $1.19

CLOSE-UP TOOTHPASTE 5.5 OZ. $1.09

WESSON OIL 24 OZ. BOT. 99¢

WISE CHIPS 1 OZ. BAGS 89¢

TEXIZE SPRAY & WASH 20 OZ. WT. $1.59

EXTRA LIGHT PANCAKES 2 LB. BOX $1.09

PILLSBURY FROSTING 5 OZ. CAN $1.29

PERT SHAMPOO MAN SPRAY MISS BRECK 1.12 OZ. BOT. $1.99 1½ OZ. CAN $1.99

7-UP SUGAR FREE 8 QT. BTL. 99¢ PLUS DEPOSIT

CASCADE DETERGENT 34 OZ. PKG. $1.99

TEXIZE GLASS PLUS 22 OZ. BOT. $1.09

HOAGIE ROLLS 4 FOR 79¢

SQUARE CAKES 6 PACK $1.69

APPLE PIE 8" PIE $2.49

GINGER BREAD 9" PKG. $1.49

ENGLISH MUFFINS 6 PACK 99¢

FRIED CLAMS & DEVILED CRABS 5 OZ. PKG. $1.09

SWISS MISS ICE CREAM ½ GAL. $1.39

SARA LEE POUND CAKE 10½ OZ. PKG. $1.49

HADDOCK 1 LB. PKG. $1.39

FLOUNDER $1.39 8 OZ. PKG.

LIGHT BATTER FILLETS 12 OZ. PKG. $1.39

CHEESE 8 OZ. PKG. $2.69

HOT DOGS 4 FOR $1.00

LUNCH MEATS LB. $2.49

SWIFT PROTEN ESSEX STEAK LB. $2.69

SWIFT PROTEN DENVER STEAK LB. $2.59

SELECT BEEF LIVER LB. 69¢

SWIFT PROTEN CUBE STEAK LB. $2.59

SAUSAGE FRANKS OR BOLOGNA 12 OZ. PKG. $1.29

SMOKED PORK CHOPS LB. $1.99

OSCAR MAYER BOLOGNA 12 OZ. PKG. 99¢

WINGS, NECKS & DRUMSTICKS LB. 49¢

SWIFT PROTEN RUMP OR ESSEX ROAST LB. $2.49

SWIFT PROTEN SIZZLEAN BEEF OR PORK STRIPS 12 OZ. PKG. $1.29

PORK SPARERIBS LB. $1.49

RICHFOOD VARIETY PAK 12 OZ. PKG. $1.59

DRIED BEEF 2½ OZ. PKG. $1.09

CUT-UP FRYERS LB. 85¢

PORK B.B.Q. SANDWICHES 2 FOR $1.00

BEAN & FRANK DINNER 15 OZ. CAN 99¢

TIMES-VIRGINIAN

SEP 1981

A LIVELY WEEKLY NEWSPAPER AT HISTORIC APPOMATTOX COURT HOUSE, VIRGINIA

SINGLE COPY PRICE - 20¢

VOLUME 90 - NUMBER 38 | Deadline: 3 p.m. Monday | APPOMATTOX,(VA.)-TIMES-VIRGINIAN-SEPTEMBER 23, 1981 | Phone: 352-3016 | ONE SECTION - 16 PAGES

16 002176 00020 120
JEAN T. HEAR
HEAD VA. STATE LIBRARY
RICHMOND VA 23219

Pamplin PTA votes to oppose closing

By BILL SHERROD

The Pamplin Elementary PTA voted last Tuesday evening to oppose any effort to close the Pamplin Elementary School.

The vote came at a meeting between the PTA and the Appomattox County School Board, attended by more than 100 people at the Pamplin Elementary School.

The vote came after Lloyd Walton, superintendent of schools, presented facts and figures on possible savings to the county if the school is closed at the end of the 1981-82 year.

Diane Seibert, president of the Pamplin Elementary PTA, accepted the motion that the PTA, "go on record as opposing" the closing of the school and do "everything in our power" to stop it.

Walton's presentation during the meeting included projected three-year savings in operational costs of more than $300,000 and a savings of approximately $135,000 in work on the facility needed to bring it up to "minimum standards."

Seibert pointed out that the PTA's stance is that the welfare of their children, not economics holds precedence in this matter.

Several PTA members said they felt their children get a better elementary education at the Pamplin facility, since it is a smaller school than the Appomattox schools, where the Pamplin students would be transported if the Pamplin School were closed next year.

Another point raised by parents at the meeting is that they would prefer that their children, particularly the younger children, not be bussed to Appomattox with the older students.

Walton explained that the idea for closing the Pamplin school was formulated when it became apparent that the declining enrollment in Appomattox County Schools would continue through this decade.

He said there would be room in schools in the town of Appomattox to accomodate the Pamplin students next year, because of the continued decline in enrollment which is projected.

And the resulting savings from the closing of the school and the reduction in staff salaries make closing the Pamplin school a feasible option in the long-term plans for Appomattox County Schools, according to Walton.

Walton said the Pamplin School issue, because it involves county tax money, is an issue of concern to "everyone in the county".

Appomattox County attorney Tommy Lawson, representing the Pamplin PTA, questioned some of Walton's projected savings, as well as the projected decline in enrollment over the next nine years.

He noted that unforeseeable factors, such as new industry in the Pamplin area, could drastically affect the school population projections.

He also questioned the projected cost of $135,000 to renovate the facility to bring it up to minimum standards.

The Pamplin school issue will again be brought before the public in a hearing Tuesday evening (Sept. 29) at 7:30 p.m. at the Appomattox Court House.

Walton pointed out last week that the hearing will be for the purpose of "presenting to the public facts which are being considered concerning the closing of Pamplin Elementary School at the end of the current school session."

He added that after a brief presentation of the facts, interested and concerned citizens will have an opportunity to raise questions and make comments concerning the proposed closing of the school.

Monday Fire

APPOMATTOX VOLUNTEER FIREMEN responded to a call at the home of Mrs. Sallie Jenkins on Patricia Anne Lane on Monday afternoon at approximately three o'clock. The origin of the fire or the extent of damage to the home has not as yet been determined. (Photo by Bill Sherod)

...mmittees set for tour

At a meeting last Tuesday night, officers and committee members were appointed for the 1982 Virginia farm Management Tour, to be hosted by Appomattox County.

John Hix agreed to serve as chairman of the steering committee for the tour, and Albert Carter agreed to serve as vice chairman. In addition, Bill Williamson agreed to serve as secretary, and Dennis Torrence agreed to serve as treasurer.

Bill Sherrod, Margaret Harris and Sherry Whaley have agreed to serve on the publicity committee for the 1982 tour.

The farm selection committee will consist of Bob McClenny (Chairman), R. M. Harris, Jr., Albert Carter, Eston Harvey, Bill Williamson, Carter Martin and Marvin Glover.

The Finance committee for the tour will consist of Dennis Torrence (chairman), Gene McNabb, Bill Hunter, Mike Weiss and Marvin House.

The traffic committee will consist of James Ford and Bobby Waddell, and the food committee will consist of Tom Conrad, Shirley Walton and Ruby Williamson.

Appomattox County was invited in early July to host the 1982 Virginia Farm Management Tour, one of the biggest annual events in state agriculture.

Farm Management Tours began six years ago in Virginia. The first tour was held in Rockingham County and attracted approximately 1,500 people.

Attendance at the Farm Management Tours grew in succeeding years, and the 1980 tour, held in Hanover County, attracted approximately 5,000 people. This year's tour, held in Washington County in the western part of the state, attracted approximately 3,000 persons.

Appomattox was chosen as host for next year's tour because of its great number of small, family owned farms, according to Bob Reynolds, a VPI&SU agricultural economist who is working with the steering committee on planning the tour.

A date for the 1982 tour should be firmed up by a meeting slated for Oct. 12, according to Jim Smith, extension agent.

Robinson celebrates 50 years as 'Father Darkleaf'

By FRANCES H. PAULETTE

Fifty years ago this month Calvin H. Robinson became the proud owner of the weekly newspaper, The Times-Virginian. Not only did the paper have a new owner but a brand new column, Father Darkleaf, written by the new owner-editor.

The column, Father Darkleaf, is the oldest, continuously running, weekly newspaper column in the State of Virginia.

We often hear the words of William Shakespeare, "what's in a name..." and we wonder, exactly what does a name donate? What about the man behind the name, Father Darkleaf?

Take a keen mind, a unique style of writing, a vast storehouse of interesting stories and experiences from which to draw and what do you have? A newspaper column that holds the attention of the reader to the very last sentence.

Calvin H. Robinson, Father Darkleaf, was born in Norfolk, Va. the son of a Baptist minister. In the 60 years that the Rev. Robinson was a minister he survived many times; consequently Calvin lived all over the State of Virginia.

Calvin Robinson is no stranger to hard work. He recalled, with a smile, making enough money during World War I to buy a savings bond. His source of income? The rabbit trap!

For each rabbit Calvin caught, cleaned and delivered to the local storekeeper-postmaster, he received a credit of .18. When he had sufficient credit he received a bond in the amount of $25.00. A lot of rabbits went into that bond!

Calvin spent his first two years of high school in Culpeper and the final two in Wilson High School in Portsmouth. While attending school in Culpeper, Calvin worked for the Virginia Star newspaper in the printing department. It is very likely that while he worked here, the desire to own his own paper began to grow in his mind.

Graduating from high school in 1922, Calvin entered the University of Richmond. Working from 6 p.m. until 12 midnight verifying charge tickets at Miller and Rhodes, he pretty much worked his way through college. He noted when he attended the University of Richmond, it was 9 miles out of the city limits.

Calvin graduated from college in 1926. While there he took all the English courses he could manage; it is his belief that a person can't have too many English courses. He is a great believer in the three R's, reading, 'riting, and 'rithmetic.

Taking advantage of university life, Calvin wrote, directed, and was MC for a minstrel show, "The Spider Frolics". The production was a money making project for band uniforms.

With a smile, Calvin remembers walking across the bridge that separated the 'boy's side' of the campus from the 'girls side'....Westhampton College. The fellows were permitted a fifteen-minute walk with the girls on the Westhampton side; on Saturday nights the guys could have a date on the girls side for an hour!

While in college, Calvin wrote a column for the school paper; it was called, "Hash and Rehash."

The first job Calvin held after completion of college was an assistant principal and teacher at Onancock High Sch l in Accomac County. He tau t six classes in five subjects a I was the only coach for bc i and girls physical education asses. While here he began writing a column for the weekly newspaper, The Eastern Shore News; he called the column the Shoreline. He continued writing this column until he came to Appomattox.

It was in 1931 that Calvin really got down to business about owning his own paper. While on vacation he came to Farmville to see Mr. James Latimer who was secretary of the Virginia Press Association. Latimer was working for Barrye Wall of the Farmville Herald; it was here he learned that the Appomatox paper was for sale.

The Appomattox paper had its beginning in 1892 as the Appomattox Buckingham Times. A few years later a rival paper was started in Appomatox. It was called The Southside

CALVIN ROBINSON* alias "Father Darkleaf," as he appeared in the early 1930s during a stint as a radio announcer in Lynchburg.

Virginian. Before too long the two papers merged and became the Times-Virginian.

On September 15, 1931, Calvin H. Robinson became the proud owners of the weekly newspaper, the Times-Virginian. He purchased it from the late A. H. Clement and kept it until he sold ½ to W. Lloyd Vaughan in 1962.

A four page weekly with very little advertising except for legal notices and orders of publication, a small circulation, the paper began to grow under the capable hand of Calvin.

"When I took over the paper, I got a very capable crew," smiled Robinson, remembering.

"Mrs. Lougenia Doss, who worked for the paper for over 40 years; Percy Staten, a Linotype operator and Spillar Trent. I remember well, once a week Spillar got out his sack of flour and made flour paste with which to seal the single wrappers on the papers. We folded the paper by hand too."

Shortly after taking over the paper, Calvin met Earle Patteson, a school tea her in Appomattox. After the marriage she began helping nim at the newspaper, doing bookkeeping and writing for the paper. She was so familiar with the people in the county that she knew most of the subscribers by name.

Calvin spent four years as a radio commentator with a radio station in Lynchburg. The program was called "The Country Editor" and aired each Friday evening. Talking about anything and everything, the program won first awards for excellence in news commentary and Calvin went to Washington to the National Press Club to accept his award.

Robinson learned early in his career that the backbone of a country newspaper is the country correspondence and sought the help of area people to submit weekly newsletter. Two of those he recruited are still writing for the paper.

Since dark-fired tobacco was the big cash crop for the farmers in Appomattox and surrounding areas, Calvin gave himself the name, Father Darkleaf and he called his wife, Earle, Mother Brightleaf. His column, Father Darkleaf has appeared in the Times-Virginian weekly since he purchased the paper.

"I've got an old portable typewriter," laughed Robinson, "it has been with me everywhere.....California, Texas, New York City, on the beaches in Florida; it's old but it's a good one!"

Hanging from the ceiling above his desk in the den is a brightly colored bird made of plastic or similar material. When asked about the significance of the bird Calvin replied with a laugh.

"That bird is a Poll-Parrot, it's hanging up there for a reason. It is to remind me not to be a copy-cat, but to always try to be original in what I write."

Smiling, he continued, "Do you see that owl over to the left of the parrot? It is there to remind me to write with wisdom.....something worthy of the wise old owl."

"I've learned a lot through the years," smiled the former editor, "in writing, write nice things about nice people and stay away from the highly controversial subjects. This is a good rule for a country newspaper."

Calvin Robinson has seen a lot of changes in Appomattox County in the fifty years he has been here. "I believe the greatest change," said Calvin as he thought back through the years, "is the change of Appomattox County from an agricultural community to an industrial community.

There weren't many payrolls when I came to Appomattox. Dark tobacco was the major money-making crop and it was bringing a little over four and one-half cents a pound."

"One thing has not changed," concluded Robinson," the good people of Appomattox. I'm proud of the civic-minded people and the civic-minded organizations they support."

Father Darkleaf, the column.....fifty years old this month. The man? A bit older, but always the same, writing with wit, with a consciousness of all that's happening in his community, with an appreciation for the growth and development of Appomattox; a special style of writing from a special kind of man.....Father Darkleaf, Calvin H. Robinson. We're glad you came to Appomattox!

Pamplin sets 'Family Day'

Pamplin's annual "Family Day," sponsored by the Pamplin Ruritan Club, will be held this Saturday (Sept. 26) at the Pamplin Recreation Center off Old Route 460.

The afternoon's festivities will begin at 4 p.m., with a Brunswick Stew feast.

The Appomattox Grand Squares, a square-dancing group, will offer a square dance exhibition at 7:30 p.m. There will also be an antique vehicle show, and the festivities will be capped off with a fireworks display at 9 p.m.

During the afternoon, a variety of games, such as golf-ball pitching, water-balloon tossing, a pie-eating contest, and others will be featured continuously.

A fifty cent donation at the gate will entitle each person to a chance at door prizes which will be offered throughout the afternoon.

Father Darkleaf

By CALVIN ROBINSON

September has done well by us weatherwise and most everyone has taken advantage of outdoor opportunities. Enough rain to keep lawn-grass growing and we have not gotten around to wondering when the first frost will arrive. Traditionally, October is heralded as Virginia's most beautiful month, but September is not yielding. Unless, of course, you are a Washington Redskin football fan. The Skins have lost their first three games and that has not happened in many years. Watching a recent TV baseball game, two bats were broken and when I was a kid that would have ended the game for we never had more than one bat. Only reason little Calvin got to play was that my late Uncle David gave the team a catcher's mit. For that I played left field. In football it was a weekend of upsets. Millersville downed Slippery Rocky, 14-12; Notre Dame was felled from top ranking; North Caroline keeps rolling and VMI took the measure of Army, at West Point, while U. of Richmond got into the win column against Arkansas State. Ruby Smith continues her high scoring for ACHS girls basketball wins. Best of luck against Liberty.

* * *

Royal Service, a Baptist publication, has a feature article in its August issue about Ann Thomas Cravens and her husband Rev. James Thomas Cravens. Outstanding careers in pastoral, associational and mission work, including service here at Liberty Baptist Church.

I was an onlooker Saturday as a crew chopped up an ancient black walnut tree on the property at Confederate and Oakleigh owned by Byron Babcock and known as the Molly Moore place. We counted the "age rings" and the tree was 94 years old. Ernest Baldwin's work crew from Pamplin did the work, necessitated by the tree's condition. Miss Mary Ann Wheeler, who lives next door, has been furnishing water to two squirrels who had established living quarters in the hollow tree. A good supply of stove wood.

* * *

Bill Jamerson was an All-State football star a few years back at VPI and for several years has been a top official in Atlantic Coast Conference games. Saturday he was an official in Gainesville, Florida as Florida State defeated Georgia Tech.

* * *

A classified adv. in a Maryland paper caught my eye. "Help wanted: hatchery vaccinators and de-beakers." Not for me. Times change. When I was a lad I got to keep and sell the eggs from any stray nest I found in the woods.

Glad to see Mrs. Ella S. Anderson in town one day last week. She is well remembered for her years of service as our home demonstration agent.

* * *

The Old Dominion Checker Association will hold its 55th annual state tournament in Buena Vista October 1-3. J. A. Henson, of Gladstone, is secretary of the association.

* * *

Quoted from my bin basket....

"Give me a sense of humor, Lord; Give me the grace to see a joke, To get some happiness from life, And pass it on to other folk."

* * *

Thanks for reading and seeya around.

Alton Smith wins contest

Alton Smith of Appomattox missed accurately predicting the outcomes of two games in last week's football contest to take top honors in the weekly Times-Virginian feature.

Smith missed only on his predictions of the Wake Forest-Auburn and Appomattox-Rustburg games. A total of 23 games are offered each week on which contestants may test their crystal balls.

Jeffrey Miller of Concord was declared the second-place winner in the contest last week, after a tiebreake between Miller and Terry Dillard of Appomattox. Miller and Dillard each missed accurately predicting the outcomes of three of the 23 contest games. However, Miller's point-spread differential was less than Dillard's on the two tiebreaker games, of which the contestants attempt to predict the exact score.

Eleven other contestants in the field of 98 entrants were in the running, missing accurately predicting the outcomes of four of the 23 contest games. They included Doug Marshall, Mark Thomas, Tom Cobb, Jay Wingfield, Tim Austin, James Elder, Stephanie Martin, Curtis T. Maybery, Jr., Walter E. Hancock, David Bohanon, and Buster Austin.

Smith will receive a check for $20 from the Times-Virginian and a chicken dinner from the Chicken Palace for his first-place performance. Miller will receive a check for $10 from the paper, and a chicken dinner from the Chicken Palace for his efforts.

The football contest continues this week, with details on prizes and entry rules on the contest page inside.

Festival Marshals

THE HONORABLE WATKINS M. ABBITT, RIGHT, Parade Grand Marshal for the 9th Annual Appomattox Historic Railroad Festival is shown with Honorary Grand Marshals, Dr. Clyde G. O'Brien , left and the Rev. R. Q. Lawing, center. This year's festival is being held on October 10 and 11. (Photo by Bill Sherrod)